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CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR  
PATTY JUDGE, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
KEVIN W. CONCANNON, DIRECTOR

TO: Technology Governance Board  
FROM: Tom Huisman  
DATE: November 8, 2007  
RE: Request for Waiver to Removable Storage Encryption Standard

The Department of Human Services (DHS) currently has a project underway to encrypt all mobile computing devices. The purpose of the project is to meet the 'Mobile Computing Device Encryption Standard' (S-012-004). DHS currently has encrypted over 400 devices (of 1500 total). With the funding assistance provided by the Technology Governance Board, and a focused effort from DHS staff, DHS will complete the project by the required date and meet the standard.

A second standard, the 'Enterprise Removable Storage Encryption Standard' (S-012-005) also has a compliance deadline of December 31, 2007. No funding was provided to assist agencies to meet this requirement.

DHS currently has a policy in place prohibiting staff from saving confidential information to removable devices. However, the TGB standard directs that any confidential information stored on removable media must be encrypted. In DHS nearly every worker has access to confidential information as defined by state or federal statute. This implies that in order to meet the standard every computing device that could have access to confidential information be configured to encrypt any information written to removable media. Practically, this means all desktop computers in the agency must be encrypted.

For DHS, this has a cost of around \$300,000. There is a limited version of the selected encryption software that only encrypts removable devices. DHS does not believe this is a good long-term approach, and it has a cost of around \$150,000. The department does not have the funds at this time to meet the standard.

DHS respectfully requests a waiver to the Enterprise Removable Storage Encryption Standard (S-012-005) until adequate funding is provided.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Huisman".

Tom Huisman

Cc: Kevin Concannon  
Steve Mosena